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Policy paper

Newton Fund: building science and innovation capacity in developing countries

Updated 23 March 2015

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1. Overview

The Newton Fund is part of the UK's official development assistance. Its aim is to develop science and innovation partnerships that promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries.

The fund is £75 million each year from 2014 for 5 years. We expect that the UK funding will lead to extra funding from:

- partner countries
- private foundations
- multi-lateral organisations
- corporate partners

2. Activities

The fund will cover 3 broad categories of activity:

- people: improving science and innovation expertise (known as 'capacity building'), student and researcher fellowships, mobility schemes and joint centres
- research: research collaborations on development topics
- translation: innovation partnerships and challenge funds to develop innovative solutions on development topics

3. Partner countries

The countries we will work with under the fund are:

- Brazil
- Chile: Newton-Picarte Fund - [Collaborating on science and innovation in Chile](#)
- China: Newton UK-China Research and Innovation Partnership Fund - [promoting economic development through research and innovation](#)
- Colombia: Newton-Caldas Fund
- Egypt: Newton-Mosharafa Fund
- India: Newton-Bhabha Fund - [further information](#)
- Indonesia
- Kazakhstan: Newton-Al Farabi Partnership Programme - for further information visit the [British Council website](#).
- Malaysia
- Mexico: [further information](#)
- Philippines
- South Africa and wider Africa: [further information](#)
- Thailand

- Turkey: Newton - Katip Çelebi Fund
- Vietnam

For regular updates on the fund please visit the [HE International Unit website](#).

4. Bidding for research funding

Calls are likely to be opened at different times according to the country and the programme area. Please see below for all current research calls:

Call name	Newton Fund country partner	Lead delivery partner	Call open	Call closes
ESRC/NRF International Centre Partnerships	South Africa	ESRC	19 March 2015	29 April 2015
Grants for UK-Chile two-stage Applied Science and Technology Transfer projects	Chile	British council	19 March 2015	30 April 2015
Call for UK institutions to partner with Research Centres in Chile in new technology and innovation call	Chile	British council	18 March 2015	1 June 2015
South Africa Research Chairs Initiative	South Africa	British council	15 March 2015	31 March 2015
UK-Thailand - Joint Health Research Call	Thailand	MRC	9 March 2015	2 June 2015
Wellcome Trust-MRC Newton Fund Collaboration	SE Asia	Wellcome Trust, MRC	9 March 2015	20 May 2015
PhD placements in Turkey - Newton-Katip Çelebi Fund	Turkey	British Council	16 March 2015	20 April 2015
Climate Science for Service Partnerships: research opportunities	China	MET office	2 March 2015	1 May 2015
Pre-announcement of a joint NERC / ESRC / NSFC call for Increasing Resilience to Natural Hazards In Earthquake-Prone regions in China (IRNHIC)	China	NERC	March 2015	May 2015
Atmospheric Pollution and Human Health in an Indian Megacity workshop	India	NERC	13 February 2015	16 March 2015
Newton Mobility Grants - international social sciences and humanities research collaboration	several countries - see link for details	British Academy	29 January 2015	18 March 2015
Newton Advanced Fellowships - social sciences and	several countries - see	British	29 January	18 March

[humanities](#)

[Newton Advanced Fellowships - medical sciences](#)
(including clinical or patient-orientated research)

[Newton Advanced Fellowships - natural sciences](#)

[Using Critical Zone Science to Understand Sustaining the Ecosystem Service of Soil & Water \(CZO\)](#)

[Atmospheric Pollution and Human Health in a Chinese Megacity Expressions of Interest](#)

[ESRC-AHRC-CASS International Centre Partnerships 2014](#)

[India-UK Collaborative Industrial R and D Programme](#)

link for details	Academy	2015	2015
several countries - see links for details	Academy of Medical Sciences	29 January 2015	18 March 2015
several countries - see links for details	The Royal Society	29 January 2015	18 March 2015
China	NERC	26 January 2015	6 March 2015
China	NERC, MRC, NSFC	7 January 2015	6 March 2015
China	ESRC	22 December 2014	5 March 2015
India	Innovate UK	21 November 2014	15 April 2015

5. Who will administer the fund

In the UK there is a governance board chaired by the Minister for Universities and Science. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) will administer the fund.

6. Delivery partners

For further information on the Newton Fund please visit delivery partner websites:

- [Academy of Medical Sciences](#)
- [British Academy](#)
- [British Council](#)
- [HE International Unit](#)
- [Innovate UK \(TSB\)](#)
- [RCUK](#)
- [RCUK – MRC](#)
- [Royal Academy of Engineering \(RAEng\)](#)
- [Royal Society](#)
- [Met Office](#)

7. Resources

- [Newton Fund programme descriptions](#)
- [Newton Fund: frequently asked questions](#)

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